

The Hong Kong

Kong

Daily

Press.

No. 9178

號八十七一千九第 日二十四月四周年三十

HONG KONG, FRIDAY, JUNE 3RD, 1887.

五年

號三月六英港香

PRICE \$21 PER MONTH

CHIPIA.

ARRIVALS.

May 31, CARISBROOK, British str., 923, R. C. Cass.

Isle 27th May, Sugar.—BUTTERFIELD &

SWIRE.

June 1, DANTON, British steamer, 561, Geo.

Anderson, Haiphong 20th May, General.

A. R. MARTY.

June 1, TOEQUIN, British ship, 1,413, Davis,

Cardiff 28th January, Coats.—ORDER.

June 2, TELEMACUS, British steamer, 1,421,

Henry Jones, Amoy 1st June, General.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

June 2, LADY HARWOOD, British bark, 322, T.

H. Williams, Newchwang 9th May, Coas.

—MASTER.

June 2, CLEOPHUS, Dutch steamer, 1,123, J. C.

Joan, Singapore 20th May, and Saigon 29th,

General.—JARDINE, MATTHESON & Co.

June 2, ESMERALDA, British steamer, 395, G. A.

Taylor, Manila 30th May, General.—RUS-

SELL & Co.

June 2, INDEPENDENT, German steamer, 571,

Hasenwinkel, Wismar 2nd June, General.

—WEILNER & Co.

June 2, ST. INDEPENDENT, German steamer, 1,123,

Hasenwinkel, Wismar 2nd June, General.

—WEILNER & Co.

June 2, YANGTZE, British steamer, 814, Star-

ring, Whampoa 2nd June, General.—SIEM-

SEN & Co.

June 2, CANTON, British steamer, 1,110, Bram-

ton, Shanghai 29th May, and Swatow 1st

June, General.—JARDINE, MATTHESON &

Co.

June 2, VOLGA, French steamer, 1,063, Bonis,

Saigon 30th May, Rice.—MESSAGERIES

MARITIMES.

June 2, NIONE, German steamer, 1,072, Pfaff,

Yokohama 19th May, and Kobe 27th, Gene-

ral.—SIEMSEN & Co.

—CLEARANCES,

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.

2ND JUNE.

Ernest, British bark, for Amoy.

San Felio, Amer. str., for Yokohama.

Young Swan, Steamer bark, for Hongkong.

Socorro, British str., for Macao.

Madida, Amer. bark, for Singapore.

Maria, British str., for Nagasaki.

Store Nordiske, Danish str., for a cruise.

Lenox, British str., for New York.

DEPARTURES.

June 2, DAFILA, British str., for Haiphong.

June 2, BAYLEY, British str., for Yokohama.

June 2, STRATHMORE, British str., for Manila.

June 2, PELAM, British str., for Shanghai.

June 2, SAN PAOLO, Amer. str., for S. Francisco.

June 2, STONE NORDBYKE, Amer. str., for a cruise.

June 2, ROSETTA, British str., for Europe.

June 2, WELLER, German str., for Tamsui.

June 2, CANTON, British str., for Whampoa.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Danube, str., from Haiphong.—23 Chi-

ness.

Per Telesma, str., from Amoy.—Mrs.

Blanchard, and 325 Chinese.

Per Celebes, str., from Singapore, &c.—59

Chinese.

Per Esmeralda, str., from Manila.—Mr. B.

Mitjana, 1 European and 5 Chinese, deck.

Per Canton, str., from Shanghai, &c.—53 Chi-

ness.

DEPARTED.

Per San Felio, str., for San Francisco.—2

Europeans and 600 Chinese.

Per Resoluta, str., from Hongkong.—For Singa-

poore.—Lieut. P. R. Simonds, for London.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Crawford, the Misses Craw-

ford, 2 children, and European servant.

Per Resoluta, str., from Shanghai, &c.—53 Chi-

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Mr. and Mrs. D

1887. NOW READY. 1887.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
FOR 1887,
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.
(TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL ISSUE),
COMPLETE WITH APPENDIX, PLANS, &c., &c.,
ROYAL EDITION, 1,156.—\$5.00.
SMALLER EDITION, BY 320, pp. 776.—\$3.00.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
has been thoroughly revised and brought up
to date, and is much increased in bulk.
It contains Descriptive and Statistical
Accounts of all, and Directories for
Hongkong, Japan—
Ladies' Directory, Nagasaki,
De. Post Director, Kobe (Hyogo),
De. Military Forces, Okinawa,
De. Chinese Hongkong—
MACAO—
CHINA—
Canton—
Lishow—
Whampoa—
Canton—
Swatow—
Amy—
Takao—
Taiwan—
Tamsui—
British North Borneo—
Cochin—
Pecow—
Wainchow—
Ningpo—
Shanghai—
Chinkiang—
Wuhu—
Kiu-kang—
Hankow—
Chuching—
Chao-fu—
Taku—
Tientsin—
Peking—
Port Arthur—
Newchwang—
Canton—
Kweichow—
Fusau—
Tsinan—
Port Hamilton—
Vladivostock—
NAVAL SQUADRONS—
British—
United States—
German—
Chinese Northern—
Japan—
Officers of the Coasting Steamer
P. & S. N. C. Co.—
Mass. Maritimes—
Japan M. S. C. Co.—
Inch-China S. N. C. Co.—
Scottish Oriental S. C. Co.—
Douglas S. S. Co.—
China M. S. N. C. Co.—
Steamers.

The LIST OF RESIDENTS now contains
the names of
THIRTEEN THOUSAND AND FIVE HUNDRED
FOREIGNERS

arranged under one Alphabet in the strictest
order, the initials as well as the surnames
being alphabetical.

The MAPS and PLANS have been mostly
engraved in a superior style and brought up
to date. They now consist of

FLAGS OF MERCANTILE HOUSES IN CHINA,
CODE OF SIGNALS USED AT VICTORIA PEAK,
MAP OF THE FAR EAST.

MAP OF THE ISLAND OF HONGKONG.

MAP OF THE CHIN OF VICTORIA.

PLAN OF THE TIENTSIN DISTRICT, VICTORIA.

PLAN OF FOREIGN CONCESSIONS, SHANGHAI.

PLAN OF YOKOHAMA.

PLAN OF MANILA.

PLAN OF SAIGON.

PLAN OF TOWN AND ENVIRONS OF SINGAPORE.

PLAN OF GEORGE TOWN, PENANG.

Among the other contents of the book are—

An Analysis of the Mean of Barometric Pressure, P. R. B. & Co.

A full Chronology of remarkable events since the advent of foreigners to China and Japan, with the day on which they fall.

Comparative Tables of Money, Weights, &c., New Scale of Hongkong Stamp Duties.

The Hongkong Postal Guide for 1887.

Arrivals and Departures of Mail and Parcel Post, and from London and Hongkong.

Scales of Counterfeits, and Chayres adopted by the Chambers of Commerce of Hongkong, Shanghai, Amoy, and Nanking.

Hongkong Club, Jintiehui, and Hotel Hui.

The APPENDIX consists of

FOUR HUNDRED PAGES

of closely printed matter, to which reference is

constantly required by residents and those

having commercial or political relations with the Countries embraced within the scope of the CHRONICLE and DIRECTORY.

The Contents of the Appendix are too numer-

ous to recapitulate in an Advertisement, but

include—

TREATIES WITH CHINA—

Great Britain, Nanking, 1842.

Treaty of Tientsin, 1858.

China, with Additional Article

and all others not abrogated.

France, Tientsin, 1858.

Convention, 1860.

Tientsin, 1858.

Treaty of Commerce, 1866.

United States, Tientsin, 1858.

Treaty of Tientsin, 1860.

Peking, 1859.

Germany, Tientsin, 1858.

Peking, 1859.

Russia, Japan, Spain, Brazil, and Peru.

TREATIES WITH JAPAN—

Great Britain—Netherlands

United States—Corea

TREATIES WITH CORSA

TRADES WITH CHINA

TREATIES WITH ANGLAIS

TREATIES WITH CAMBODIA

CUSTOMS TARIFFS

Chinese—Siamese

Japanese—Corean

LEGAL

Orders in Council for Government of H. B. M.

Subjects in China and Japan, 1855, 1877.

Rules of H. B. M. Supreme and other Courts

in China and Japan

Tables of Consular Fees

Code of Civil Procedure, Hongkong

Table of Hongkong Court Fees

Admiralty Rules

Foreign Jurisdiction Act

Regulations for the Consular Courts of United

States and Japan

Rules of Court of Consuls at Shanghai

Chinese Passenger Act

TRADE REGULATIONS

China—Siamese

Japan—Customs Seizure, China

Customs and Harbour Regulations for the dif-

ferent ports of China, Philippines, Siamese, &c.

Postage Regulations

HONGKONG

Charter of the Colony

New Rules of Legislative Council

Port Regulations

&c., &c., &c.

Orders may be sent to Daily Press Office, where

it is published, or to the following Agents—

MACAO—Mr. F. A. G. & Co.

SWATOW—Messrs. G. Guérard & Co.

FORMOSA—Messrs. G. Guérard & Co.

POOCHOW—Messrs. Hodge & Co.

NINGPO—Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, S. G. H.

SHANGHAI—Hall & Holtz Cooperative Co.

NORTHERN & HALL & HOLTZ COOPERATIVE CO.

HONGKONG—Messrs. C. T. & Co.

YOKOHAMA—Messrs. Kelly & Walsh & Co.

MANILA—Messrs. Diaz Puentes & Co.

SINGAPORE—Messrs. Schroeder Frères & Co.

CAIRO—Messrs. Gordon & Götze

MELBOURNE—Messrs. Norton & Gough & Co.

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HONGKONG—Mr. F. Mainroy

HAI-FOONG—Mr. G. Gaville

BAKOK—Messrs. Norton & Gough & Co.

SINGAPORE—Messrs. G. & C. Co.

PEKING—Messrs. M. A. & J. Ferguson

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EDINBURGH—Messrs. G. & C. Co.

LONDON—Mr. F. Mainroy

LONDON—Messrs. G. & C. Co.

LONDON—Messrs. G. & C. Co.

LONDON—Mr. W. M. Wills, 15, Cannon St.

LONDON—Mr. L. P. Fisher, 21, Merchants

Exchange.

NEW YORK—Mr. A. Wind, 21, Park Row.

Daily Press Office, January 1887.

INTIMATIONS.

S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED
HAVE BEEN APPOINTED SOLE AGENTS
IN
HONGKONG, CHINA, AND MANILA,
FOR

MAWSON'S NEW PATENT
WATER FILTERS,
WITH RENEWABLE MEDIUM,
Handbills, showing Construction and Patterns,
Supplied on application.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.
Established 1841.

Hongkong, 30th April, 1887.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those on business to "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not fixed for a fixed period will be continued until otherwise directed.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. or the day of publication after that hour the supply is limited.

TELEPHONE NO. 12.

DEATH.

On the 1st June, at Marseilles, Mr. HENRI FOURENIER, aged 47 years.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JUNE 3RD, 1887.

These officials are ready to claim its advantages, but they deliberately shut their eyes to the primary fact that international law implies a reciprocity of obligations, which never practically existed between China and England and can never exist until Chinese law and its administration has undergone a radical revolution, until torture and systematic money squeezes are rooted out, until the whole system of official revenue farming, official peculation, and official oppression has undergone a thorough reform, until the nature of mandarins has been regenerated,

— in one word, until China ceases to be what it is and becomes really civilized. The forbearance shown by Great Britain all along towards the Chinese Government by extending international courtesies to Chinese officials and ambassadors is certainly not a sign of friendship, but of a misapprehension of the Chinese mind. He had been connected with the Cathedral for more than twenty years, and was always a radical forerunner of the Chinese cause, but he was not a Christian, and that he was a Christian did not save him from being misunderstood.

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The man who was charged at the Police Station on Wednesday last with having in his possession two sets of new opium, in contravention of Section 6 of the New Opium Ordinance mentioned in yesterday's issue as being passed by order of the Government as the man evidently violated the law unknowingly. The Government intimated to the Police Authorities that they questioned whether he had been guilty of the offence of being in possession of new opium, but the Police Authorities had no evidence to support this charge.

A simple remedy would be that the two American Consuls should select some day of the week which is not the day fixed for the departure of the mail for Europe.

We are requested to state that the proceeds of the general octroi were collected on Sunday morning and sent to the Cathedral on Sunday next, will be devoted to the maintenance of the widow and family of the late head coolie, who met with his death under very painful circumstances last week. He had been connected with the Cathedral for more than twenty years, and was always a radical forerunner of the Chinese cause, but he was not a Christian, and that he was a Christian did not save him from being misunderstood.

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little volume winds up with some elegancies by the Vicerey. In the Secretary Pao-yan, and others. Taken altogether, this collection of motley experiences is not composed in any very dignified or becoming style, but the doctor, "why I wouldn't have preached that sermon for tithy!"

In a bulletin of the U.S. Fish Commission recently issued, Mr. J. W. Collins describes the finding of a knife of curious workmanship in the tusk of a large pod. The "fin" was made at Gloucester, Mass., on September 16, 1886, by Captain George W. Smith, of the U.S. Fish Commission, from his schooner. He had lifted several tusk from a tub, and, running his hand over the thicker portion of one of them to call the attention of the bystanders to its fitness, he felt something hard beneath his fingers. Further examination produced a knife. The handle of the knife is of brass, curved and tapering posteriorly with a long, thin, straight, slightly curved, and slightly notched edge of the blade. The form is remarkable, and suggests "the handwork of some savage tribe, or the scrimshaw work of a sailor."

The blade, which is of a lanceolate shape, has been bored a good deal, and the extreme point is very thin. The total length of handle and blade together is 61 inches. "As to where the fish got the knife," says Mr. Collins, "we can only conjecture, as the fisherman who found it had no idea of its value, and could not tell us where he got it." In any case, the finding of such an unmarketable implement in such a strange place must be a matter of interest to the ethnologist and naturalist alike."

Little Alice was crying bitterly, and, on being questioned, confessed to having received a slap from her mother, the playfulness of "You should have returned it," and the reply, "Oh, returned it before!" answered the little girl.

The following is from a *Well-tempered* publishing in the *Times*.—A great tumult was heard when a Chinese was seized with emotion, and he burst through the door. Madame Baoue had thrown him into the arms of a negro, who kissed her ardently. "He was full of tears!" In consequence of their non-appearance one morning, their room was broken into by the neighbours, when all three persons were found insensible in their beds. The son was the first to recover consciousness, and the two others were quickly called to remain seriously ill. A search was instituted, which resulted in the discovery of a fissure in the oil-pipe, which passed down behind the wall of their room, the gas from which had, in all probability, given rise to these severe symptoms. A persistent bad odour had remained for some time previously, but as it was not in the room, the cause was not known. Persons other than those inhabiting the house were very well-to-do, no particular attention had been paid to it. This case shows very clearly the danger incurred by allowing a gas-pipe to pass down within a building—a fact which, notwithstanding its simplicity, does not as yet seem to have dawned upon foreign architects, who, whatever their theoretical knowledge may be, so largely ignore these elementary principles of hygiene in their plans for dwelling-houses.

"Come in, my poor man," said a benevolent lady to a raged tramp, "and I will give you something to eat." "Thank you, madam; don't care if I do." "I suppose," continued the lady, setting a square meal before him, "your life has been full of trials?" "Yes, ma'am, 'n't the waist of it was, I allow got convicted,"—Judge.

Le France declares that all the rifles furnished to the French Army between the years 1869 and 1886 want precision, that neither Chassepot nor the Gras fire straight, and that it is the same with the new semi-automatic Gras-Loebel. It is also complained that the new repeating-rifles do not fire from the shoulder after each round. It is some consolation (it adds) to think that it is the same with the German rifle.

"And now tell me," inquired the professor, who was engaged in the vice versa examination of the two medical students. "Now tell me, please, Mr. St. Xavier, what is the best炮兵 (gunner)?" "A very good炮兵 (gunner) is that which is a good炮兵 (gunner) for his battery,"—"Well sir," returned the incipient炮兵 (gunner), in his gravest tones, "from repeated personal experience I have gathered that a man weighs his best heaviest at the precise moment that he happens to stand upon your corns."

It is noteworthy that there is no increase in the revenue upon coffee. The consumption of coffee has doubled within the last fifteen years; and the consumption of tea has doubled during the last thirty years. If coffee stationary be cause it is not advertised? Great firms like Messrs. Cooper & Company spend thousands of pounds in advertising their excellent coffee, and bearing the celebrated brand of Cadbury, of Fry, and of Epps. Is, then, to advertisements, known in every quarter of the globe.

Photography has never reproduced natural colours. Scientists explain this fact by the statement that color has no objective existence. It is simply the brain's interpretation of the rapidity with which the waves of a ray of light fall against the retina. Beasts most rapid development of the mind known as violet; birds less rapid, as blue; violet and red are nothing but vibrations of the same until they reach the optic nerve, and communicate to that the vibrations, which the brain translates. To photograph colour is therefore as impossible as to photograph sound.

High speeds are being gradually attained in steam vessels by the use of compound high-pressure compared with the size of the ship. The other day a torpedo boat for the Italian Government made the almost phenomenal mean speed of nearly twenty-nine miles an hour in the river below Gravina; and the Italian cruiser *Dogali*, in experimental trips at sea, made a mean of twenty-three and a half miles an hour. The latter is due to the fact that the speed and the high speed has been obtained by the use of triple-expansion engines and high-pressure steam. It will be noticed that both vessels are for the Italian Government.

The following advertisement appeared in a recent number of the *New York Herald*.—"Married lady of title, with daughters, will receive, shape-roms present and introduce into good society Americans; carriage and pair kept; balls and receptions given, and other social advantages; terms in advance, 450 guineas; two for herself, terms in advance, 100 guineas each. Mrs. L. S. May's, 159, Piccadilly, London, W." It would be interesting, in view of the number of Americans who have arrived, and are expected, in London, to know whether "Lady S." had any satisfactory replies to her advertisement. Her terms are stiff, but not perhaps, too stiff for any idiots who are willing to pay.

It looks like as if the milkman may after all, be a grievously wronged individual. In a milk-delivery case at Cheltenham the other day, a sample of "babies' milk" sold by the defendant was proved to contain 10 per cent of added water. At the request of the defendant, however, the cow responsible for this sample was milked in the presence of the inspector, and the bulk in legal phraseology, proved to contain 10 per cent of water. I have always argued that to deal with adulteration effectively we must go to the fountain-head but, under these circumstances, the question arises, What are we to do when we get there? The analysis in this instance said that it was the worst sample of genuine milk on record, and that he should report on the case. But what then? A cow capable of producing babies with 10 per cent of added water clearly deserves no mercy, but one she is dealt with under the Food and Drugs Act?

Messrs. A. Bleiach & Co. have erected, at Tscherny, in Hungary, an elevated roadway for the transport of ore from the mine at Klipberg to the works lying lower down in the valley. The total length of the road is 1,000 feet, and the difference in level is 100 feet. The loading and discharging stations are 600 feet, whilst the maximum grade is 300 per 1,000. The line consists of stationary ropes of different sizes, the heavier serving for the down train of loaded trucks, and the lighter ropes for the up train of trucks, which are either empty or loaded with wood. The up and down trains are joined by a connecting rope at the point of which the descending train is stopped. At both ends of the line the trucks are automatically coupled and uncoupled. Thus the line works entirely by gravitation, and there is at present an excess of about 4 horse-power available, and this power is now lost by the action of the brakes, but later on will probably be utilized for doing some useful work. The speed of the movable rope is 34 miles, and the quantity of ore delivered is 10 tons per hour.

When in the Aspinas in 1885 (writes a correspondent) I was struck by the case of animal instinct which is worth recording. Wolves are by no means infrequent in the Aspinas, and often attack the young foals which are sent up to pasture with the mares in the mountains. The experienced dairymen seem to have forgotten a precautionary instinct of a very intelligent kind. It is said that, on an alarm of wolves, mares and foals congregate for mutual protection and come together in a mass form themselves into a sort of corral, heads outward, surrounding a space enclosing the young foals, and are ready for attacking with their fore-feet the wolves on their approach. My informant gave me a graphic account of such an attack of which he was an eye-witness for nearly an hour, and described to me how the wolves would round and round the defenders, first at some distance, then coming closer and nearer and nearer, seeking an opening into the enclosure, till at last they came within striking distance, and he saw one wolf rolled over dead by a blow from the fore-foot of one of the mares.

OLLA PODRIDA.

"Don't you suppose," said a member of the party, "that a policeman knows a rogue when he sees one? A policeman knows a rogue when he sees him. 'I see no doubt,' was the reply, 'but the trouble is that he does not see a rogue when he knows him.'

A low-watt alarm and indicator for boilers has been designed. In connection with a joined frame, the toggle levers is a properly connected float, so arranged that when the water in the boiler has fallen below a certain level the float will be made known by an indicator upon the boiler, together with an alarm from the whistle.

"Come in, my poor man," said a benevolent lady to a raged tramp, "and I will give you something to eat." "Thank you, madam; don't care if I do." "I suppose," continued the lady, setting a square meal before him, "your life has been full of trials?" "Yes, ma'am, 'n't the waist of it was, I allow got convicted,"—Judge.

Le France declares that all the rifles furnished to the French Army between the years 1869 and 1886 want precision, that neither Chassepot nor the Gras fire straight, and that it is the same with the new semi-automatic Gras-Loebel. It is also complained that the new repeating-rifles do not fire from the shoulder after each round. It is some consolation (it adds) to think that it is the same with the German rifle.

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It is noteworthy that there is no increase in the revenue upon coffee. The consumption of coffee has doubled within the last fifteen years; and the consumption of tea has doubled during the last thirty years. If coffee stationary be cause it is not advertised? Great firms like Messrs. Cooper & Company spend thousands of pounds in advertising their excellent coffee, and bearing the celebrated brand of Cadbury, of Fry, and of Epps. Is, then, to advertisements, known in every quarter of the globe.

Photography has never reproduced natural colours. Scientists explain this fact by the statement that color has no objective existence. It is simply the brain's interpretation of the rapidity with which the waves of a ray of light fall against the retina. Beasts most rapid development of the mind known as violet; birds less rapid, as blue; violet and red are nothing but vibrations of the same until they reach the optic nerve, and communicate to that the vibrations, which the brain translates. To photograph colour is therefore as impossible as to photograph sound.

High speeds are being gradually attained in steam vessels by the use of compound high-pressure compared with the size of the ship. The other day a torpedo boat for the Italian Government made the almost phenomenal mean speed of nearly twenty-nine miles an hour in the river below Gravina; and the Italian cruiser *Dogali*, in experimental trips at sea, made a mean of twenty-three and a half miles an hour. The latter is due to the fact that the speed and the high speed has been obtained by the use of triple-expansion engines and high-pressure steam. It will be noticed that both vessels are for the Italian Government.

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It looks like as if the milkman may after all, be a grievously wronged individual. In a milk-delivery case at Cheltenham the other day, a sample of "babies' milk" sold by the defendant was proved to contain 10 per cent of added water. At the request of the defendant, however, the cow responsible for this sample was milked in the presence of the inspector, and the bulk in legal phraseology, proved to contain 10 per cent of water. I have always argued that to deal with adulteration effectively we must go to the fountain-head but, under these circumstances, the question arises, What are we to do when we get there? The analysis in this instance said that it was the worst sample of genuine milk on record, and that he should report on the case. But what then? A cow capable of producing babies with 10 per cent of added water clearly deserves no mercy, but one she is dealt with under the Food and Drugs Act?

Messrs. A. Bleiach & Co. have erected, at Tscherny, in Hungary, an elevated roadway for the transport of ore from the mine at Klipberg to the works lying lower down in the valley. The total length of the road is 1,000 feet, and the difference in level is 100 feet. The loading and discharging stations are 600 feet, whilst the maximum grade is 300 per 1,000. The line consists of stationary ropes of different sizes, the heavier serving for the down train of loaded trucks, and the lighter ropes for the up train of trucks, which are either empty or loaded with wood. The up and down trains are joined by a connecting rope at the point of which the descending train is stopped. At both ends of the line the trucks are automatically coupled and uncoupled. Thus the line works entirely by gravitation, and there is at present an excess of about 4 horse-power available, and this power is now lost by the action of the brakes, but later on will probably be utilized for doing some useful work. The speed of the movable rope is 34 miles, and the quantity of ore delivered is 10 tons per hour.

When in the Aspinas in 1885 (writes a correspondent) I was struck by the case of animal instinct which is worth recording. Wolves are by no means infrequent in the Aspinas, and often attack the young foals which are sent up to pasture with the mares in the mountains. The experienced dairymen seem to have forgotten a precautionary instinct of a very intelligent kind. It is said that, on an alarm of wolves, mares and foals congregate for mutual protection and come together in a mass form themselves into a sort of corral, heads outward, surrounding a space enclosing the young foals, and are ready for attacking with their fore-feet the wolves on their approach. My informant gave me a graphic account of such an attack of which he was an eye-witness for nearly an hour, and described to me how the wolves would round and round the defenders, first at some distance, then coming closer and nearer, seeking an opening into the enclosure, till at last they came within striking distance, and he saw one wolf rolled over dead by a blow from the fore-foot of one of the mares.

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EXTRACTS.

THE FALL IN MARRIAGES AND BIRTHS.

We learn from the annual summary published by the authority of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in England two facts of extreme importance. The ratio of the births-in in London and the other twenty-seven great towns in England and Wales is, says Sir Bridges Bonner, steadily falling. The births registered in London in 1886 were 133,700, giving the proportion of 32.3 births in the year to 1,000 inhabitants. This is the lowest rate on record since 1850, when the rate was 32.0. Ten years ago it was 33.5, but from that date it has fallen continuously. So it has also in the towns which the Registrar-General is in the habit of enumerating in the statistics. It would, therefore, appear that the population of England and Wales is likely in future to increase more slowly year by year, and it is quite possible that by-and-by it may begin to decrease. If there should be a rise, instead of a fall, in the number of deaths, the returns might seem to justify the gloomiest predictions of the pessimists who believe that we have touched the highest point in our career as a nation. The second fact which brought out in the summary will cause genuine alarm in thousands of homes, and will be hailed as bad tidings of great sorrow by tens of thousands of women. Marriages, it appears, are steadily declining, not only among the wealthy and middle classes, but likewise among the masses. The marriages celebrated in the metropolis in 1886 were 34,446, giving a proportion of 16.6 persons married to 1,000 inhabitants. This is the very lowest marriage-rate as yet recorded in London, and the fact is rendered all the more ominous by the supplementary statement that in three immediately preceding years, 1883-4, the rates were successively 17.9, 17.6, and 16.9. The popularity of marriage is therefore steady on the wane. There is no doubt that some people will rejoice it is so, and we freely concede that the honorable estate of marriage is too frequently entered into without any real sense of the gravity of the step. Men too often marry, without being in a position to maintain a wife; without having even thought about children; with a recklessness which cannot be too strongly condemned. There are, again, in all classes of life, who marry when they are perfectly well-aware that they are victims of disease which cannot fail to be transmitted to their offspring. And there are men who, though they are able to support a wife and enjoy good health, do not know how to treat a woman. But bearing in mind all the men who do not earn enough money to keep a wife and family, all the unhealthy men who are not fit to marry, and all the brutal and boorish men whom even the companionship of women can not civilise, the growing tendency of the sex not to marry is not a matter which can be contemplated with equanimity. Without staying to inquire into the causes which, doubtless, have been steady at work for some time to render marriage distasteful, it may be said that women themselves are not blameless. The figures of the Registrar-General cannot be explained away, and they confirm the impression that men are becoming more selfish, and strengthen the conviction that women will find it harder to live in the future than they have in the past. This is enough to make all thoughtful people anxious about the development of the great social questions which sooner or later will have to engage the attention of all public, perhaps to the exclusion of all others.—*Figaro*.

ST. GEORGE OF MERRIE ENGLAND.

April the twenty-third, the feast of St. George, the patron of England, is a day which, curious to say, in England itself passes most unnoticed. But in our colonies, and among the many scattered groups of English residents abroad, St. George's Day is rarely allowed to pass without being marked by some festive gathering, the expression of no small amount of genuine loyalty, and the even pleasant exchange of greetings and news from home. This was, however, when St. George's Day was a festival ranking in importance only next to Christmas itself, when work was laid aside, and merrymaking was universal. The Reformation, and perhaps even more, the gloomy influence of that spirit of Puritanism which we are only now getting out of the way, has done much to extinguish the memory of St. George's Day. Doubtless it is due to the somewhat improbable character of our patron's reported exploits, that our practical and prosaic age has allowed so largely into oblivion the once popular memory of St. George of Merrie England.—*Globe*.

VICTOR HUGO'S WILL.

"How much did he cut up for?" Such, it is popularly understood, is the inelegant but certainly expressive form of question used in strictly business circles when an individual is reported to be very wealthy despite this mortal life. The query is not, perhaps, frequently put in the case of poets, or indeed of men of letters, as a race. There is a Greek proverb to the effect that great wealth and great learning are rarely found in poets who "cut up" for anything, con siderable in the way of worldly goods are the exception, and not the rule, among the brethren of the pen. The poet, one of the greatest of living minstrels has told us, in a golden age was born; but it is not often that when the bard descends to the tomb he leaves behind him any appreciable amount of gold of his own. A bright departure from a somewhat melancholy average must be recognised in the case of an illustrious poet and romance-writer, whose fame has long since spread over the whole civilised world, and whose memory will be cherished by the French nation so long as their splendid literature endures. Only a week since there was proved in London the will of Victor Hugo, described as formerly of the Rue de Clélie, Paris, but late of the Avenue Victor Hugo, gentleman, member of the French Academy, Senator for the Department of the Seine, who died on May 22, 1885. But that wills are supposed to be strictly formal documents, and not admitting of any verbal surplices, it might have been added that the distinguished testator, before he died in the Rue de Clélie, inhabited a spacious "appartement" in the antique Place Royale in the Marais at Paris. In that old mansion, dating from the days of Louis XIII, surrounded by the books, the illuminated manuscripts, the pictures, the old armour and tapestry which he loved so well, the famous author of "*Les Misérables*" and "*Le Château du Chapeau-Rouge*" composed some of his most exaltate lyrics; and was in the same house, that the poet one morning, hearing a great clatter on the staircase, outside his study, discovered his two hopeful sons dancing a jig of delirious joy, and chanting a wild shrill with the "bride." The master's dead, the master's dead!" Their preceptor had indeed gone the way to victory. To the alleged timely personal aid of St. George himself at the brilliant attack of Antioch—a victory followed by the fall of Jerusalem—can be attributed his first popularity. He was at once selected as the patron of soldiers, and as such represented on horseback. To every reader of the fascinating adventures of the Seven Champions of Christendom, the heroic value of St. George is familiar, and though the modern student of comparative mythology may set down the legend of St. George's mortal combat with the dragon merely as one of the many adaptations of heathen belief in a solar god, yet so long as scientific discovery leaves dormant in our breasts one spark of romance, the memory of our patron saint will remain associated with the familiar incident so spiritedly depicted on the reverse of the old sovereign piece designed by Pictet for William IV.

In the face of the romance which centres round the chivalric saint under whose protection our nation is supposed to rest, it is to be regretted that there has grown up so confusing a mass of falsehood, error, and slander. The brave and simple-minded martyr who, more than 1,500 years ago, suffered death for his faith on the day now devoted to his memory, has been assailed by the calumny of confusion with a heretical bishop bearing also the name of George, but whose antecedents, and general traits are quite as ill-fitting among his books as his name. The plain, unvarnished story of his life relates how, born in Palestine of Christian parents, he served in the army of Diocletian, in whose cruel persecutions he perished, not, however, till the miraculously accompanying his martyrdom had converted the Empress Alexandra and many thousands of pagans. That he was early venerated as a saint is shown by the numerous churches dedicated to his memory in the East. Prior to the Conquest, St. George was popular in this country, where over 162 old parish churches bear his name. The monastery of St. George, at Thetford, belongs to the time of Canute.

At what exact period St. George was recognised as the national patron has never been determined. It is known, however, that the Great Council held at Oxford in 1222 appointed the festival of St. George—April 23—as a national holiday. In the following century Edward III, established St. George as the patron saint of England, and under his protection was placed the Order of the Garter. To the present time the Chapter of the Order is held on St. George's Day in the historic St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle. The red cross of St. George became the badge of the Order, and it figured proudly along as the national flag till its incorporation with the crosses of St. Andrew and St. Patrick composed the Union Jack. It has been ingeniously suggested as an explanation of the reason why St. George was chosen as our patron, that his name in a distant and less literate past may have been confounded with that of St. Gregory (George), read instead of Gre-gori-us), whose active share in the evangelisation of our island is well known; but the suggestion finds no other support than theory. How the memory of St. George the Martyr came to be confused with that of the heretical Bishop of Alexandria it is much more easy to understand. Here, fortunately, the story of death, which returns might seem to justify the gloomiest predictions of the pessimists who believe that we have touched the highest point in our career as a nation. The second fact which brought out in the summary will cause genuine alarm in thousands of homes, and will be hailed as bad tidings of great sorrow by tens of thousands of women. Marriages, it appears, are steadily declining, not only among the wealthy and middle classes, but likewise among the masses. The marriages celebrated in the metropolis in 1886 were 34,446, giving a proportion of 16.6 persons married to 1,000 inhabitants. This is the very lowest marriage-rate as yet recorded in London, and the fact is rendered all the more ominous by the supplementary statement that in three immediately preceding years, 1883-4, the rates were successively 17.9, 17.6, and 16.9. The popularity of marriage is therefore steady on the wane. There is no doubt that some people will rejoice it is so, and we freely concede that the honorable estate of marriage is too frequently entered into without any real sense of the gravity of the step. Men too often marry, without being in a position to maintain a wife; without having even thought about children; with a recklessness which cannot be too strongly condemned. There are, again, in all classes of life, who marry when they are perfectly well-aware that they are victims of disease which cannot fail to be transmitted to their offspring. And there are men who, though they are able to support a wife and family, all the unhealthy men who are not fit to marry, and all the brutal and boorish men whom even the companionship of women can not civilise, the growing tendency of the sex not to marry is not a matter which can be contemplated with equanimity. Without staying to inquire into the causes which, doubtless, have been steady at work for some time to render marriage distasteful, it may be said that women themselves are not blameless. The figures of the Registrar-General cannot be explained away, and they confirm the impression that women will find it harder to live in the future than they have in the past. This is enough to make all thoughtful people anxious about the development of the great social questions which sooner or later will have to engage the attention of all public, perhaps to the exclusion of all others.—*Figaro*.

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disease which cannot fail to be transmitted to their offspring. And there are men who, though they are able to support a wife and family, all the unhealthy men who are not fit to marry, and all the brutal and boorish men whom even the companionship of women can not civilise, the growing tendency of the sex not to marry is not a matter which can be contemplated with equanimity. Without staying to inquire into the causes which, doubtless, have been steady at work for some time to render marriage distasteful, it may be said that women themselves are not blameless. The figures of the Registrar-General cannot be explained away, and they confirm the impression that women will find it harder to live in the future than they have in the past. This is enough to make all thoughtful people anxious about the development of the great social questions which sooner or later will have to engage the attention of all public, perhaps to the exclusion of all others.—*Figaro*.

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Great Council held at Oxford in 1222 appointed the festival of St. George—April 23—as a national holiday. In the following century Edward III, established St. George as the patron saint of England, and under his protection was placed the Order of the Garter. To the present time the Chapter of the Order is held on St. George's Day in the historic St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle. The red cross of St. George became the badge of the Order, and it figured proudly along as the national flag till its incorporation with the crosses of St. Andrew and St. Patrick composed the Union Jack.

It has been ingeniously suggested as an explanation of the reason why St. George was chosen as our patron, that his name in a distant and less literate past may have been confounded with that of St. Gregory (George), read instead of Gre-gori-us), whose active share in the evangelisation of our island is well known; but the suggestion finds no other support than theory. How the memory of St. George the Martyr came to be confused with that of the heretical Bishop of Alexandria it is much more easy to understand. Here, fortunately, the story of

death, which returns might seem to justify the gloomiest predictions of the pessimists who believe that we have touched the highest point in our career as a nation. The second fact which brought out in the summary will cause genuine alarm in thousands of homes, and will be hailed as bad tidings of great sorrow by tens of thousands of women. Marriages, it appears, are steadily

declining, not only among the wealthy and middle classes, but likewise among the masses. The marriages celebrated in the metropolis in 1886 were 34,446, giving a proportion of 16.6 persons married to 1,000 inhabitants. This is the very lowest

marriage-rate as yet recorded in London, and the fact is rendered all the more ominous by the supplementary statement that in three immediately preceding years, 1883-4, the rates were successively 17.9, 17.6, and 16.9. The popularity of marriage is therefore

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